Account Bill, 2000, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th March, 2000.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India.

(II)

In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2000, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th March, 2000.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India.

Sir, I lay a copy of each of the Bills on the Table.

RE: LAWYERS' STRIKE

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am on a point of order. *(Interruptions)* My point of grievance is that for the last so many days, we have been waiting for the clarifications on the statement made by Mr. Ram Jethmalani regarding the lawyers' strike and the severe attack on the lawyers in Delhi. Sir, the lawyers' strike has crippled litigation all over the country. Thousand of litigants are suffering. Still, no action has been taken by the Home Ministry against the police officials who were responsible for brutal attack on the lawyers which we all saw on television. Tomorrow is the last day of this Session. I would request the House to give precedence to this issue over other business. To take such an uncompromising stand when a brutal attack was made on the lawyers, especially the women, is not at all proper. We all saw it on television. The Home Minister is present in the House. Let us discuss it. Sir, I would request you to ask the Government that this issue be given precedence over other business so that we can discuss it and find out what the Home Minister is doing. Everyday we see that more and more lawyers are joining in. We have been shocked by the brutality of the police against the legal community. The amendments to the Civil

Procedure Code is something which we will discuss. That is a different issue. That is for the Law Minister to decide. We will seek clarifications. But to show complete indifference towards the entire legal fraternity in the country which is now crippled because of this stirke, is not fair. Nothing has happened and no action has been taken against these police officers who have attacked these women and other lawyers. Sir, something has to be done. Let the Home Minister respond to it. Are they concerned or not? The entire legal system in the country has come to a grinding halt.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL (Bihar): Sir, I may be permitted to endorse the sentiments of my learned friend, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan. I just want to add one thing. I read a very disturbing news item in "The Statesman" this morning where the Police Commissioner is alleged to have stated that if the Government intends to suspend any police officer, he will not execute that order. That is the statement attributed to the Police Commissioner of Delhi. This is the extent to which the police has gone. Sir, yesterday, I was with the lawyers. Many persons' hands have been fractured, heads have been injured. One of the Secretaries of the Delhi Bar Association cannot see beyond fifteen feet. This I know from personal knowledge. And if this is the extent, then why has the Government not acted for so many days? Merely because the Police Commissioner has said that he will not execute the orders!*(Interruptions)* Is the writ of the Central Government to be decided by the Police Commissioner of Delhi or will the Central Government ensure that its writ runs large? Why is the Government quiet about it?*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): The legal fraternity is supposed to be a very responsible community. But they are not listening even to the voice of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has asked them something. *(Interruptions)* What has been attributed by a correspondent to the Police Commissioner of Delhi is....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Eighty-seven lawyers were taken to the Ram Manohar Lohia hospital. The MLCs are there on the record. Many of them were seriously injured.*(Interruptions)* The Government has kept quiet. We want a statement from the Home Minister.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, if the discussion takes place, we also would like to have our say. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There will be no discussion.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Then no charges should be made. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The Police Commissioner of Delhi has threatened the Government.*(Interruptions)* We want a statement from the Home Minister.*(Interruptions)* This is unheard of. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.N.CHATURVEDI: Sir, however responsible and eminent the legal fraternity may be, they cannot hold the entire country to ransom. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: He has said that he will not execute any orders of suspension.*(Interruptions)* Not only that, Sir. He has said: "I ordered the lathi-charge, the lathi-charge was justified. If the Government wants me to suspend any officer, I will not execute that order."*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, what is happening? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: Sir, I think, he is trying to .....*(Interruptions)*..... We should never repeat such statements unless we verify the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*... Such statements should not be repeated. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सिर्फ पुलिस से सरकार नहीं चल सकती। ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: Sir, it should not be recorded. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN : Sir, what is the Law Minister doing? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the Home Minister is silent. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the Home Minister is silent. Why is he not reacting? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम : यह तो अजीब सा मामला है, सिर्फ लाठीचार्ज ही नहीं किया गया बल्कि उस पर जिस तरह से सरकार ने खामोशी बरती है...**(व्यवधान)**

SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, the Home Minister should react to this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why is the Home Minister silent? Why is he not reacting to it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want to hear the Minister or not? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, वकीलों पर 24 फरवरी को जो लाठीचार्ज हुआ और जिस तरह से उनकी निर्मम पिटाई की गई उस सिलसिले में जो लॉ मिनिस्टर का स्टेटमेंट आया ...**(व्यवधान)** लेकिन क्लैरीफिकेशन...**(व्यवधान)** महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से अनुरोध करूंगा कि इसके लिए कोई समय निश्चित हो ताकि वकीलों की जो निर्मम पिटाई इस पार्लियामेंट हाउस के सामने 24 फरवरी को हुई है उस सिलसिले में...**(व्यवधान)** यह सदन का अपमान है। सभापति महोदय, पिछले तीन दिनों से...**(व्यवधान)** वकीलों की पिटाई के सिलसिले में यह सदन क्यों खामोश है...**(व्यवधान)** सभापति महोदय, इसके लिए शाम तक कोई समय निश्चित किया जाए कि वकीलों की जो निर्मम पिटाई 24 फरवरी को हुई है उस सिलसिले में मंत्री महोदय ...**(व्यवधान)** यह मामला पुलिस और वकीलों के बीच का है और इसका सीधा संबंध केन्द्र से है। गृह मंत्री जी यहां मौजूद हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us hear him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please hear the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: He is the custodian of law and order. .....*(Interruptions)*.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear the Minister now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister speak..*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this incident in which several lawyers have been very badly hurt is a very unfortunate incident. From the beginning, the Law Minister, because it was related to the Bill that he was bringing forth, was dealing with it, and the lawyers met him as well as the Prime Minister, and came to certain agreements, etc. in respect of the inquiry. As regards further action in this regard, it is being dealt with by the Lt. Governor of Delhi who directly looks after the Delhi Police. Only last night, I spoke to him and he said that several lawyers had a series of discussions, yesterday, with him and he was hopeful of some agreement being arrived at. Therefore, I thought that only when the agreement had been arrived at, would I make a statement in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Sir, I just want to point out one thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just want to point out

.....*(Interruptions)*..... One second. ...*(Interruptions)*... One second. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just want to point out.....*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we do not get a chance to speak even after giving a notice. What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Several dalits have been killed in Karnataka and we are not getting a chance to raise the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, what is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I want to state for the purpose of record that ....*(Interruptions)*... I want to state for the record that..*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश प्रधान (महाराष्ट्र): सभापति जी, आज की विषय सूची में भी यह विषय आया है । लॉ मिनिस्टर स्टेटमेंट देंगे और फिर उस के ऊपर क्लैरीफिकेशंस होंगे।...(**व्यवधान**)... फिर यह विषय गए आठ दिन से विषय सूची में रखा गया है, लेकिन सदन में लॉ मिनिस्टर को बयान नहीं देने दिया जा रहा था, यह भी हकीकत है । इस सब के बावजूद यह विषय इस समय उठाया जा रहा है, जोकि बिल्कुल गलत है । इसलिए इसे परमीशन नहीं दी जानी चाहिए।...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, कर्नाटक में सात लोगों को जिंदा जलाया गया...(**व्यवधान**)... उस पर मंत्री जी का बयान आ जाए और चर्चा हो जाय ...(**व्यवधान**)... तो उन्हें क्या आपत्ति है?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I want to state for the purpose of record that day-before -yesterday, there was a meeting of the lawyers with the Lieutenant-Governor. That fact is correct. The Lieutenant-Governor had informed the lawyers that he would get back to them within a couple of days. But the Lieutenant-Governor has not got back to the lawyers. The lawyers only want that the police officers who decided to lathi-charge the lawyers, and who gave the orders for it, should be suspended. That is the only demand of the lawyers.*(Interruptions)*...so that every can go back to work..*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You say whatever you want to say..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Sir, they don't want to hear me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't want to hear them, and they don't want

to hear you. *..(Interruptions)...*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I want to listen to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let me say this. This subject of clarfications from the Law Minister was on the Order Paper for a number of days. Even Mr. Jaswant Singh wanted to say something on the hijacking issue. But, because of what happened in the House, this could not be taken up. It is not that the Government was not ready, but the situation was such, and we could not help it. So, the question is: how to go about it? In the meanwhile, many other things have come up. That is why, I know, the number of Calling Attentions was very limited and the number of Special mentions was also very limited. It happened because the situation was such. That is all right. Now, today, we decided to take up as many Special Mentions as possible. We also decided to take up two statements, one on the Bodo issue and the other about Karnataka, which we discussed yesterday. the Minister will make statements and clarifications will come. If come. If you want to seek clarifications, I suggest that you sit late in the evening and, then, have clarifications from both the Ministers.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, that is fine, We are prepared for that *..(Interruptions)...*

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal): Sir, there is report in the *Pioneer* that *karela, jamun* and *brinjal*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. Don't bring that issue now. *..(Interruptions)...* You can give it as Special Mention and, then, we shall do it. *..(Interruptions)...* Now, Mr. Home Minister. *..(Interruptions)...* You did not take permission from me and still you want to raise this issue? *..(Interruptions)...* Your name is already there in the list of Special Mentions. Now, Mr. Home Minister.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER
Suspension of Operations Against Bodo Liberation Tigers

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this august House is aware of the history of militancy in Assam. The activities of various militant groups in the State have seriously